

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0020] of the specification as published with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0020] In order to determine a distance between the two pistons 14, 16 and/or in order to measure a pressure in the cylinder chamber 32, a path measuring system 90 and/or a pressure measuring system 92 ~~(not shown)~~ is provided. By means of the measured distance and/or pressure, an alteration of the relative position of the pistons 14, 16 and/or an alteration of the pressure in the cylinder chamber 32 may be determined, so that any drifting apart of the pistons 14, 16 may be detected. A drifting apart of the pistons 14, 16 occurs, e.g., as a result of a leakage towards the inside, with pressure medium flowing from the annular chambers 38, 40 subjected to a higher pressure via the pistons 14, 16 into the cylinder chamber 32. Moreover with the aid of the relative distance of the two pistons 14, 16 as detected with the aid of the path measuring ~~system,~~ system 90, a zero position adjustment of the drive mechanism 2 may be performed in a simple manner. A more detailed description of the adjustment of the zero position will be given in the general description of the operation of the represented embodiment of the drive mechanism 2 in accordance with the invention.

Please replace paragraph [0037] of the specification as published with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0037] For an adjustment of the zero position following a drifting apart, the adjusting valve 44 and the pre-tensioning valve 54 are in a blocking position, and the displacement valve 48 is open. Due to the blocking position of the adjusting valve 44 the annular chambers 38, 40 are separated from each other, so that pressure medium can not flow from the annular chamber 40 of the secondary unit 12 into the annular chamber 38 of the primary unit 10. The secondary piston 16 is hydraulically immobilized in its position. By means of the path measuring system 90 the current distance between the two pistons 14, 16 is

detected, and the spindle drive is actuated such that the predetermined relative distance between the pistons 14, 16 is adjusted. As a result of the opened displacement valve 48, the pressure medium connection between the annular chamber 38 of the primary unit 10 and the cylinder chamber 32 is established, so that when the primary piston 14 is displaced in the direction of the secondary piston 16 for reducing the distance, pressure medium may be displaced from the cylinder chamber 32 into the annular chamber 38. Contrary to known solutions, a time-consuming extension of the secondary piston 16 into an opened position for the purpose of zero position adjustment is thus not necessary any more in accordance with the invention. The zero position adjustment performed in accordance with the invention may be performed rapidly and easily virtually any time. As soon as the nominal distance between the two pistons 14, 16 is again adjusted, the drive mechanism 2 is in its defined zero position or basic position, so that--optionally after a repeated pre-tensioning of the system--new work cycles may start. Such a rapid zero position adjustment may also be performed with the pressure measuring ~~system-system~~ 92. In this case the pressure in the cylinder chamber 32 is measured and compared to a nominal pressure.